

**STANDING ORDER 1-94. ASSIGNMENT OF CASES TO THE MIDDLESEX
SATELLITE SESSIONS AT CONCORD AND MARLBOROUGH**

Applicable to the Middlesex Division

- I. Purpose.** The Probate and Family Court Department has established satellite sessions of its Middlesex Division at the Concord and Marlborough District Courts. The satellite sessions have been established primarily to handle long or complex contested matters; to provide the residents of the designated areas with convenient access to the Probate and Family Court; and to provide additional courtrooms for Middlesex sessions.
- II. Assignment Procedures.**

 1. *Middlesex Cases.* All requests for assignment of Middlesex Division matters in Concord or Marlborough are to be made through the Trial Department in Cambridge.
 2. *Other Division Cases.* The Chief Justice of the Probate and Family Court may, from time to time, assign cases pending in other divisions to these satellite sessions. Requests for such assignments must be made directly to the Office of the Chief Justice.
- III. Non-geographic Assignments.** Regardless of where either party resides, the Trial Department of the Middlesex Division may assign any case pending in the Middlesex Division to the satellite session at either Concord or Marlborough for pre-trial or trial at either Marlborough or Concord if all parties agree to the assignment in writing.
- IV. Geographic Assignments.** A case may be marked up for pre-trial or trial at Concord or Marlborough at the request of either party if at least one party currently resides or one counsel has an office in a town served by that session. The towns served by the sessions are as follows.

 1. *Concord:* Acton, Ashby, Ayer, Bedford, Billerica, Boxborough, Burlington, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Concord, Dracut, Dunstable, Groton, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Lowell, North Reading, Pepperell, Reading, Shirley, Tewksbury, Townsend, Tyngsborough, Westford, Wilmington or Woburn.
 2. *Marlborough:* Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkington, Hudson, Marlborough, Maynard, Natick, Sherborn, Sudbury, Stow, Wayland or Weston.
- V. Motions and Contempts.** Any party who lives in one of the towns served by either the Concord or Marlborough satellite session may request that a motion or a contempt be marked up for hearing at the satellite session which serves that geographic area. A motion or contempt arising from a case already assigned to the Concord or Marlborough satellite session may be marked up for hearing in that session. No other motions or contempts are to be marked up for the Concord or Marlborough satellite sessions.